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TWENTY-SECOND YEAR—NO. 50. SECTION A TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1936. PER COPY 5c

YULE DISPLAY, 'OPEN HOUSE' TONITE AT 7:30

Three Inquests Held for Eight Crash Victims

Avalon Boulevard Bridge Tragedy Held Worst of Year in County

Accidental and due to high rate of speed at which car was traveling... recommend that suitable warning signals be placed at this location. This was the consensus of six verdicts issued by a six-man coroner's jury Tuesday afternoon following an exhaustive investigation into the death last Saturday night of six persons—three men and three women—in the worst traffic accident of the year in Los Angeles county.

The scene of the crash was the concrete bridge over the slough on Avalon boulevard, a mile north of Carson street. The inquest was held at Stone and Myers' chapel and the funeral rites for five of the victims will be held at Grace chapel, Inglewood, tomorrow afternoon.

Arrangements for the burial of Mrs. Melba Jones, 25, of 8641 Cedar street, Los Angeles, await word from relatives, according to Charles Myers. Mrs. Mildred Schultz, 19-year-old wife of Albert Schultz, who was also killed in the crash, died of injuries received when the car smashed head-on into the concrete abutment of the bridge. She succumbed at Las Campanas hospital, Compton, early Tuesday morning.

Double Negligence

The other victims were Harold Schultz, 30; his wife, Elizabeth, 25, of 8250 Compton avenue, Compton, and Joseph Eisenboth, 29, single, of the same address. All were riding in Eisenboth's 1936 Ford sedan, which was presumably driven by Harold Schultz. There were four witnesses examined by Deputy Coroner Harry Kane.

Immediately following this examination the same jury—W. E. Bowen, D. W. Quigley, E. J. Scott, L. B. Morgan, Jr., Arthur Mullin and Charles H. Law—probed the death of Frank Hillton, 39-year-old rancher on Redondo avenue in the 17700 block, last Sunday morning when he was struck by a car driven by Albert Christenson, 441 Oxford street, Hawthorne, while crossing Prairie street south of 182nd street.

The verdict in this case was "accidental and due to negligence on part of the driver and lack of care and caution on the part of the pedestrian." Five witnesses were examined by Deputy Coroner Kane for this investigation.

Tuesday morning at the A. M. (Continued on Page 2-A)

SIX-POINT SAFETY PROGRAM BY FERN PTA GETS ATTENTION

Six asserted dangerous and objectionable conditions now existing in the Fern avenue school district were brought to the attention of the city council Tuesday night in a letter from Mrs. Clyde D. Lowen, president, and Mrs. W. J. Bowers, secretary, of that school's P. T. A.

They said no great outlay of money would be required to improve the following conditions and asked immediate action to obtain: (1) a "School Slow" sign painted on Torrance boulevard west of Fern avenue; (2) safety zones painted on the boulevard and on Cedar street at El Dorado avenue; (3) eliminate the practice of draining water from the city storage tanks into the boulevard; (4) install a permanent crossing

Treasure for All!

Herald Sponsors City-Wide Yule Hunt Opening Saturday, Nov. 28

A treasure chest running over with scores of valuable gifts... a treasure trek that will cover the whole Torrance shopping district... And the greatest Christmas Treasure Hunt in the South Bay district will start Saturday morning, Nov. 28, open to every person who takes advantage of the opportunities to "shop in Torrance and save" from that date until Monday night, Dec. 21.

Sponsored by the Herald with the co-operation of most of the business firms in the city, this great event will be climaxed with the announcement of prospective winners Wednesday evening, Dec. 23.

—And here's how the Christmas treasure hunt will be conducted: Save Your Tickets! Each of the progressive Torrance merchants enrolled in the event have donated three prizes—not mere gadgets or trinkets—but worthwhile merchandise items that will come as welcome Christmas gifts to lucky winners.

Numbered tickets are to be given every purchaser in those stores, one with each 50-cent purchase, beginning Saturday morning, Nov. 28. Distribution of these tickets will continue until Monday evening, Dec. 21. A box labeled "Drop Christmas Treasure Hunt Tickets Here" will be supplied by the Herald for each co-operating store, and customers will be instructed by the various sales people to tear off the stubs, deposit them in the box before leaving the store, and retain the ticket.

One Night Only!

On the closing date, Monday night, Dec. 21, all ticket stubs will be collected and put in a master hopper. A merchants' committee will draw out three numbers for each store and these winning digits will be posted on a special display card at 6 p. m., Wednesday night, Dec. 23. This display will remain at each store entered in the Christmas Treasure Hunt until closing time that night.

Customers who have shopped in Torrance during the progress of the preceding 20 days and saved their Treasure Hunt tickets will be urged to be in the Torrance shopping district, made brilliant by "Silver Star Lane" and the other festive holiday decorations, and tour the Treasure Hunt stores. When they find a number on any of the special display cards which corresponds to any number they have on tickets they are hold-



ing, they are to claim the prize offered. These points should be noted by all shoppers and business men alike: The winning numbers are to be posted for the one night, Wednesday, Dec. 23, only. When awarding claimants the prizes, merchants will take the winners' names and addresses so that the Herald may publish in its following issue the list of fortunate Christmas Treasure Hunters.

Boy Cyclist Has Chance at Life

Given an even chance to live, Jordan Zumwalt, 16-year-old Torrance high school student, continued to hold his own at Jared Sidney Torrance Memorial hospital today. He was hurled from his bicycle to the pavement when a truck struck his wheel from the rear at 7:30 Tuesday morning.

The youth, son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas J. Zumwalt, of 2227 South Vermont avenue, is suffering from three skull fractures and has not recovered consciousness since the accident. A prominent Los Angeles brain specialist conferred with the boy's doctor at the hospital Wednesday and they agreed that he has an even chance to live if his stamina resists the drain on his vitality.

According to deputy sheriffs who investigated the accident, the driver of the truck, J. Hamill, 1625 West 163rd street, Moneta, is not being held. Young Zumwalt and another boy were on their way to school when the truck approached from the rear and the driver sounded his horn. The other boy wheeled clear of the truck but Jordan was struck.

The boy's father is a fireman, stationed at the Budlong-Florence unit, and was vacationing in Texas. Learning of his son's plight, he took a plane at San Antonio and flew to Los Angeles, arriving Wednesday morning.

State Enlarges Street Program

Approval of the enlargement of the state's highway construction and maintenance work in this city during the current biennium from \$13,550 to \$14,449 (paid out of Torrance's state gasoline tax allocation) was voted by the city council Tuesday night.

Chief cause for the increased grant to this area was the proposed installation of a gutter along Hawthorne avenue.

CIVIC BUILDING ADVANCED TO BID STAGE

Purchase of El Prado Lot Completed for New Structure

It took six resolutions by the city council Tuesday night to advance the proposed civic administration building to the stage where bids are to be advertised for the \$10,000 structure and opened Jan. 5.

At the same time the board adopted another resolution to ask the PWA for an additional grant of \$5,479 to reduce the final cost of the civic auditorium home by the city. This measure was drawn by Auditor C. J. Rambo, and was based on the statement that the expense was higher than the original estimate.

No action was taken on the telegraphed notice resolved from Sen. William G. Moffat's secretary that the PWA had allocated \$247,500 for a new central fire station. Mayor Stanger said that the council could not accept or reject the offer until official notice is received. He indicated last Monday that the council would not accept the grant, preferring to retain the present fire headquarters rather than incur additional expense for a new structure.

Complete Lot Purchase

First resolution pertaining to the erection of the proposed administrative building adjoining the auditorium on El Prado was regarding the payment of some \$2,000 to obtain a clear title to the property which was being purchased on contract. This outright purchase was advised by City Attorney C. T. Rippey and when it was approved, he offered his second resolution.

This measure asks the county to cancel taxes on the property because it was municipally owned. Resolution three adopted plans and specifications for the administration building, No. 4 of the series approved Walker and Eisen's architectural fee of six percent for the plans and supervision.

At P. A. Eisen's suggestion the next measure adopted called for the advertising of bids and their opening on Jan. 5. Sixth and last resolution requests an advance of 15 percent of the PWA grant toward 45 percent of the cost of construction to cover the starting costs of the work. If this is approved, the city will not have to advance these preliminary expenses out of its own funds.

VACATION BEGINS

High school classes ended at noon Wednesday (to permit students to attend the football carnival at the Los Angeles Coliseum) and at the close of the afternoon's session in elementary schools for the Thanksgiving holiday. Classes will resume Monday morning.

TAX REBATE CLAIMS AVAILABLE HERE MONDAY

City Clerk A. H. Bartlett has been deputized a county deputy clerk for receiving claims for rebates from payers of 1933-34 Los Angeles city school district taxes and will start accepting these Monday morning, it was learned today.

The Torrance city official will have a supply of rebate claim blanks and will be in a position to assist any taxpayer in this district toward filing the claims. This will save many residents a trip to downtown Los Angeles. Taxpayers should bring their

JAP DRIVER PERILS FIVE, IS KILLED

Santa Paula Matron and Son Are Hurt in Crash Wednesday

Lives of five persons were imperiled Wednesday afternoon at the intersection of Highway 101 and Hawthorne avenue by a Japanese driver who police claim was drunk. S. Wada, 215 Eshelman street, Lomita, the asserted intoxicated motorist, was fatally injured in the crash which also injured a Santa Paula woman, one of her two sons who were with her and a companion of Wada's.

The Japanese died at Jared Sidney Torrance Memorial hospital from a skull fracture and internal injuries shortly after he was received. He was accompanied by John Younko, 2040 West 245th street, Lomita, who was badly injured.

Police report that Wada was driving the car and made a wide right hand turn off Hawthorne into Highway 101, striking a machine containing Mrs. Lulu Tory and her two children, of Santa Paula, who were on their way to spend Thanksgiving with relatives in Long Beach. Doylo Tory suffered a badly torn ear and his mother received numerous cuts and bruises. A daughter, riding in the rear seat, was reported unhurt.

All victims were treated at the hospital here and the Tories sent to the home of Mrs. Tory's brother, Fred Burnett, 1357 Devon street, Long Beach. Younko was removed from the local institution to the county General hospital in Los Angeles.

Mrs. Tory told police she tried to avoid the accident but the careening car struck her's in spite of all efforts to avert the crash. Capt. John H. Birch recalled that Wada was involved in a death case of a small boy several years ago. The inquest will be held Monday at 10 a. m., at Stone and Myers chapel.

Radio Announcer Killed in Crash Near Lomita

A thick fog obscured the turn in Vermont avenue near Lomita boulevard Monday night and William Kuser, Jr., 25-year-old chief announcer at radio station KHJ, driving north with two friends, failed to see the curve. His car careened off the highway and turned over four times.

Kuser was hurled thru the windshield from his driver's seat and pinned beneath the machine. Before he could be removed from the wreckage he was dead. Don Forbes, chief announcer at KNX, and Dr. H. Clifford Loos, Santa Monica, brother of Anita Loos, famed writer, were seriously injured.

Music, Lights and Color to Launch "Silver Star Lane"

An air of keen expectancy hangs over the Torrance business district today as the hour grows near when "Silver Star Lane" will blaze forth in all its music, light and color to launch the biggest Christmas shopping season in the history of the city. This will begin tonight at 7:30 o'clock when Mayor W. H. Stanger turns on the 3,600 feet of illuminated lights strung along Cabrillo and Sartori avenue, and the brilliant street decorations are revealed in all their cheery, Yuletide glory.

Then the windows of most of the city's progressive merchants will be unveiled and the stores will hold an informal "open house" for the inspection of all residents and visitors in the city.

Prepared at an expense of nearly \$1200, the Christmas street display is the product of the Torrance Retail Merchants' Association and the result of three months' intensive effort. Every resident of this and surrounding cities is invited to throng the business district tonight to see what Torrance business people have prepared for the holiday trade.

All Stores Ready

The municipal band will parade and from the triangular park at Sartori and Marcelina avenues, short talks will be made by Mayor Stanger, J. W. McQuaid, president of the Chamber of Commerce, and Alden W. Smith, president of the Merchants' association. Then the lights will be flashed on and the "open house" begins.

Illumination of the streets will be the signal for merchants who have veiled their display windows to reveal the colorful array of holiday merchandise they have used to decorate the fronts of their various stores. All business places will be open to a late hour to permit everyone to see the interesting displays arranged for the 1936 Yule season.

This morning President Smith of the sponsoring merchants' organization said: "We have done our best to make Torrance the shopping center for the entire South Bay district. We have worked hard to make the street decorations equal to those anywhere in Southern California. The merchants have stocked their stores with the greatest supply of Christmas gifts and other seasonal merchandise they have ever purchased."

"All that remains now is for the people to come downtown tonight and see what is available in Torrance. For that reason, we invite every man, woman and child in the harbor district to be our guests at the 'open house' tonight, starting at 7:30 o'clock."

TUBE LIGHTS FOR LIBRARY

Following a demonstration of tubular lights to replace the suspended overhead illumination between stacks at the public library, members of the library board approved installation of the new system Tuesday afternoon. The improvement, which will provide a more even illumination of the book racks, will cost approximately \$100.

At the same time the board decided to have a fireplace built in the corner of the exterior northeast wall to replace the present iron incinerator. Illumination of the rear garden, now under construction, was considered but no action taken. It is possible that the garden may be lighted from floods installed on the library roof.

DEED RECEIVED FOR STREET EXTENSION

Extension of Cherry avenue from Narbonne to connect with Pennsylvania avenue is now possible, City Engineer Leonard told the city council Tuesday night, as property owners have deeded the intervening 50-foot strip to the city. No improvement is planned at the present time.

San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge

Residents of Torrance interested in the great trans-bay bridge opened to traffic Nov. 11 in San Francisco and Oakland will be privileged to see and hear the first public screening in Southern California of sound motion pictures of that great holder of bridge records, Friday night, Dec. 3.

Arranged for presentation before the Rotary Club by Grover C. Whyte and W. H. Bratton, program committee members, thru the co-operation of E. M. Barber, general superintendent of Columbia Steel plant, the 10-reel visual history of the \$70,000,000 bridge will be shown at the American Legion clubhouse following the service club's dinner-meeting that night.